

Inside THE CUPBOARD

DAYS OF AUTUMN



The last time I wrote this column we were all looking forward to summer and all that comes with that,

holidays, gardening, and family gatherings.

Here we are now with summer behind us and it felt like it was busier than usual at TLC. In fact at the end of August, our statistics recorded a 14% increase over the same period last summer. A number of factors contributed to that increase but at the end of the day the team at TLC are honoured to be here to aid Central Albertans.

As a registered charity we rely on grants, fundraising and donations from our community to sustain our organization. As we continue to serve many more people, we see our budget increase. With over 12,000 hours of volunteerism contributing to our operations, we are able to operate at what would otherwise be a much higher cost. Our 2020 operating budget is set at \$535,000.

As we look forward to another year, we have a number of fundraising events planned. Some you will hear about in this newsletter along with others that will be highlighted on our social media and website. Your donations and support are an essential part of our sustainability, help us to keep paying it forward. Contact us to learn how you can become a monthly donor.

Dawna Morey

Dawna Morey,
Executive Director

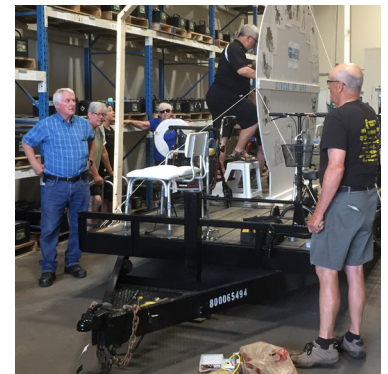
OUR COMMUNITY SPIRIT SHINING

It has been said many times that The Lending Cupboard Society (TLC) has among the best volunteers in central Alberta. Each week they continue to shower TLC with their incredible skills, talents, compassion and genuine concern for citizens of central Alberta.

When TLC's Marketing/Fund Development Coordinator put the call out for volunteers to participate in the Annual Westerner Days Parade, TLC's volunteers and staff stepped up and were excited to participate. From the very first planning meeting to actual parade, their enthusiasm and support was phenomenal.

Over the course of 2 weeks, volunteers and staff members worked together to build a float that reflected the vision and mission of The Lending Cupboard – Albertans have access to medical equipment and daily living aids that enhances their quality of life by maintaining mobility, independence & dignity. The theme this year, "Circle of Life" which encompassed TLC's ability to meet the needs of their clients from the very young to the very old and end of life. The theme also reflected their environmental awareness by their reuse, recycle and repurpose philosophy.

Parade day the sun was shining and approx. 10-15 volunteers made an appearance in the Westerner Days parade. The float (a 26 foot trailer) was provided and towed by Herc Equipment Rentals and our neighbours, Battery Boss provided their bay space to work. Allowing construction of the float to continue after hours, while offering protection from the outside elements. TLC's donated van (by Lacombe Ford) also made the appearance. Support for this project was simply overwhelming as ideas, skills and talents of people came together and provided parade attendees a glimpse of what TLC is about and the services available to them. Response along the route certainly was heart-warming, with many saying thank you for being there! Here at TLC, we continue to be thankful for the generous support of our community – very pleased to play a role in a community celebration!



Produced by
The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta
#1-7803 50 Ave Red Deer, AB T4P 1M8
P: 403.356.1678
E: contact@lendingcupboard.ca
www.lendingcupboard.ca
Follow us! [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#)

Dawna Morey, Executive Director
Writer & Editor
Lori Shatto, Marketing/Fund Dev. Coordinator
Layout & Design
Kerstin Heuer, www.heuerdesign.ca

HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

For the past number of years we have heard the phrase “Aging in Place”; what does it mean and how is it relevant?

According to <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/seniors/forum/aging> aging in place means “having the health and social supports and services you need to live safely and independently in your home or your community for as long as you wish and are able.”

As the population continues to age and extra demands are put on the system, we are seeing more and more



family members wishing to remain in their homes. There are many reasons why, such as independence, security, comfort/familiarity and location in close proximity to family, shopping or medical services. When considering aging in place, consider the following;

1. Will your current home need any modifications to ensure that you are able to remain independent and mobile in your home? Can you enter your home safely? Checking the home to ensure measures are in place to prevent falls, such as flooring/ flooring transitions and furniture placement. Are the washrooms/bedrooms accessible?
2. Have necessary equipment such as grab bars, bath seats, etc. placed in the home. Have a regular “check in” buddy system with a neighbour or friend. Check with an Occupational Therapist, even better have one come and visit your home to do an evaluation. Make sure your home environment is safe for you – we are all unique and all have different needs.

Have the resources that you need to remain safe, independent and active in your home! There are organizations available to assist – including The Lending Cupboard.

IF YOU NEED IT! – AND WE’VE GOT IT! – YOU CAN BORROW IT!

Did you know that TLC has over 13,000 pieces of equipment in its current inventory? There is everything from crutches, wheelchairs, and bath benches to specialized pieces of equipment. That’s an amazing amount of items to keep track of and requires the attention of both staff and volunteers on a regular basis.

TLC has seen its inventory tracking system improve quite drastically over the years. As the need and volume of equipment has grown, so has the way the equipment has been tracked. From the original work being done on paper to its current method of a uniquely created database and bar code scanning. TLC is thankful to the incredibly talented staff and people in our community that are willing to share their skills to create a more efficient check out/borrowing system.

When borrowing a piece of equipment from TLC, you

provide us with your name and address. An account is then created for you. All of the equipment has a sticker with The Lending Cupboard’s logo on it and a bar code, we scan that bar code and link that piece of equipment to you – very much like borrowing a book from the library!

While we pride ourselves on being able to provide people with the equipment they need on a loan basis and the ability to track those pieces of equipment, there have been times over this past summer we have found ourselves with a shortage of wheelchairs. Other times we have seen shortages in different areas of our equipment inventory. If your needs are expected to be long term, Alberta Aids for Daily Living (AADL) is a government program that can help you purchase your own equipment. TLC staff and volunteers can provide you with the necessary information to begin this process.

If your organization would like to partner with The Lending Cupboard, please contact us at 403.356.1678.



2020 Winter Luncheon SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar and plan to join us! On January 27th, 2020, The Lending Cupboard Society of Alberta will hold its 2nd Annual Winter Luncheon at the Cambridge Red Deer Hotel and Conference Centre.

For those in attendance last year, it was a time for community members to come together to support The Lending Cupboard in “enhancing mobility, independence & dignity”. Outside the weather was a true reflection of an Alberta winter in January, inside the warmth and comfort was enjoyed by all. From the amazing meal to the heartfelt stories of our guest speaker the event was deemed successful.

This year, we are delighted that Arlene Dickinson will be joining us as our guest speaker! Arlene Dickinson is the CEO of Venture Communications and the General Partner of District Ventures Capital, a venture fund focused on helping market, fund and grow entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial companies in the food and health space. She is a two-time best-selling author, accomplished public speaker, and is best known for her role as a Dragon/Venture Capitalist for over ten seasons on the

multi-award-winning television series Dragons Den.

Ms. Dickinson’s leadership has been recognized many times, including Canada’s Most Powerful Women Top 100 Hall of Fame, the Pinnacle Award for Entrepreneurial Excellence, as well as PROFIT and Chatelaine’s Top 100 Women Business Owners. She is also a Marketing Hall of Legends inductee and a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Award. Dickinson serves as an Honourary Captain in the Royal Canadian Navy. She sits on several public and private boards and is actively involved in supporting the community.

Tickets will be available for sale from the Black Knight Inn Ticket Office later in the fall, please watch our social media platforms and our website for the ticket sale launch! Tickets will be \$100 per person. This will be a great opportunity to gather your office staff/clients and hear from a Canadian entrepreneur and philanthropist.

There are still some sponsorship opportunities available. If interested contact Lori Shatto at marketing@lendingcupboard.ca or 403-356-1678 for more information.



**2nd Annual
Winter Luncheon**

**Guest Speaker
Arlene Dickinson**

**Save the Date:
Monday,
January 27th,
2020**

Wishlist

SUPPORT US FROM YOUR COUCH

Did you know that you can support TLC from the comfort of your couch?

Yeah from your couch!

Check out www.lendingcupboard.ca, click “donate”. OR become a monthly donor – a great way to support us on a regular basis that works with your household budget.

This is how your donation can help:

- \$30 towards the purchase of a pair of crutches
- \$50 to \$100 towards the purchase of a four wheeled walker or a bath seat
- \$350 towards the purchase of a Knee Walker
- \$300 to \$500 towards the purchase of a Wheelchair



"If you can not pay it back, pay it forward."

Catherine Ryan Hyde



NUMBER NUGGETS

July and August 2019

2,154 Clients Served

1,812 Equipment on Loan

1,596 Equipment Returns

264 New Inventory

461 Equipment Donated

155 Recycled/Scrapped

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

If you have a special interest in Special Events, Fundraising or wish to volunteer in client services, cleaning/sanitizing, or repairs contact our Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@lendingcupboard.ca or call us at 403.356.1678

THANK YOU

As we close another edition of our Newsletter, **we would like to thank ALL the amazing people, community groups/services clubs that continue to support us.** We are always grateful and so appreciative of your generosity. Thank you for allowing us to continue to ensure that central Albertans have access to medical equipment that will enhance their quality of life by maintaining their mobility, independence & dignity!



Dawna & Craig from CAT Theatre



Dawna with members of the Innisfail Lions Club



Dawna with Mike from the Knights of Columbus – St. Mary's



Georgia donating her birthday present funds!



Dawna with members of the Red Deer Kinsmen Club

STAY TUNED

Want to learn more about The Lending Cupboard? Visit our website at www.lendingcupboard.ca. Want to receive our newsletter electronically? Send us an email to contact@lendingcupboard.ca